

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An authentication method of an image processing system in which a host computer and an image processing apparatus are connected to a network, information in  
5 the image processing apparatus being processable in accordance with a remote operation from the host computer, comprising:

a first authentication step of authenticating the image processing apparatus when the host computer is to  
10 remotely operate information in the image processing apparatus; and

a second authentication step of performing an authentication process for an operation with respect to the information on the basis of a code stored in the  
15 host computer.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the authentication process is executed by add-on software downloaded from the image processing apparatus.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the  
20 authentication process is performed using a dictionary which defines codes stored in the host computer and operations with respect to the information.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the dictionary is contained in an authentication device on  
25 the network.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein an address of the authentication device on the network is

determined by add-on software.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the operation with respect to the information is at least one of download, browsing, printing, and transfer.

5 7. An image processing system in which a host computer and an image processing apparatus are connected to a network, information in said image processing apparatus being processable in accordance with a remote operation from said host computer,

10 comprising:

first authenticating means for performing authentication to said image processing apparatus when said host computer is to remotely operate information in said image processing apparatus; and

15 second authenticating means for performing an authentication process for an operation with respect to the information on the basis of a code stored in said host computer.

8. The system according to claim 7, wherein the authentication process is performed by an authentication server connected to the network.

9. A program for allowing a computer to execute an authentication method cited in claim 1.

10. A computer-readable recording medium recording a  
25 program cited in claim 9.